

25.1 Assistive Listening System/Device Selection

Procedures to assess the effectiveness and appropriateness of assistive listening systems/devices (ALDs) for individual patients/clients or facilities, often involving the dispensing of systems/devices and monitoring their use over time.

Professionals Who Perform the Procedure(s)

Audiologists.

Expected Outcome(s)

- Used of an assistive listening system/device reduces the impact of hearing loss on the patient's/client's life or facilitates listening in acoustic environments.

Clinical Indications

- Individuals of all ages are assessed on the basis of their communication, educational, vocational, and social needs.

Clinical Process

- A pre-established basis for provision of a product is demonstrated.
- Use of the device in both clinical and natural environments is considered.
- Because many ALDs are used with hearing aids, the selection process addresses system/device compatibility.
- Because there are no standards that specify sound level and other characteristics, care must be taken to control output level to minimize adverse effects.
- The client is informed about safety concerns.

Setting/Equipment Specifications

The professional has the equipment and materials required to evaluate and customize the systems/devices.

Documentation

- Documentation specifies the rationale for system/device selection, counseling provided, procedures involved in the assessment of the system/device, the patient's/client's responses to use, prognosis for benefit, plan for monitoring and orientation, and final disposition/reassessment plans.